

I am outraged at the decision of Sinclair Broadcasting to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry propaganda piece shortly before the presidential election. It is a blatant example of the dangers of media control by private interests.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. When large companies control the airwaves, our democracy gets sacrificed on the altar of moneyed special interests. We want to see substantive news about issues that matter, and not propaganda that serves only corporate interests.

The actions of Sinclair demonstrate the necessity of strengthening media ownership rules. They show why the license renewal process should include a serious consideration of how much attention has been paid to the public interest in the programming aired by a station. Showing partisan political propaganda should be grounds for revocation of a license. Thank you.